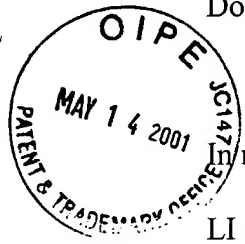


#23/P
5-23-01
B. H. Thiaugh
PATENT

Docket No.: 50435-015 (P2145)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

LI GONG

Serial No.: 08/883,636

Filed: June 26, 1997

For: LAYER-INDEPENDENT SECURITY FOR COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

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Group Art Unit: 2132

Examiner: D. Meislahn

RECEIVED

MAY 16 2001

Technology Center 2100

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's non-final Office Action dated February 13, 2001. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please amend Figures 1 and 6 of the drawings to label them Prior Art as shown in the attached Request for Approval of Drawing Amendment.

Figure 3 of the drawings has not been labeled and a Petition to the Group Director has been filed from the Examiner's holding that Figure 3 should be labeled Prior Art.

Figure 5 has been amended to show labels as requested by the Examiner.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows: